

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

INEZ MOORE TENENBAUM STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Inez M. Tenenbaum

State Superintendent of Education

DATE: May 24, 2004

SUBJECT: School Technology Funding

I am pleased to announce that the K–12 Technology Partnership has once again been able to secure funds to make it possible to provide school technology funding for your districts. The Partnership remains committed to providing funds to the extent possible.

The State Department of Education will process one payment to your districts in the next several weeks. These are FY 2003–04 funds with carry-forward provision. The funds are distributed based on ADM and Grades 1–3 Free and Reduced Lunch counts for the second preceding year. The enclosed spreadsheet shows the allocation for each district.

The Teacher Technology Proficiency Proviso (1.29) states that "the State Department of Education shall approve teacher technology competency standards required by local school districts as part of the Teacher Professional Development Plan. Approval of the teacher technology standards by the Department shall be a prerequisite for expenditure of district technology funds." Accordingly, each district must submit and receive approval of its district technology plan, including technology professional development plans and standards, by the Office of Technology in the State Department prior to expenditure of these funds. Current approval status of your district technology plan can be verified on the State Department's Web site at http://www.myscschools.com/offices/tech/techplan.htm.

Additionally, districts are required to complete an annual online school and district technology inventory site survey by no later than July 20 for each year in which funds are received or expended. This survey must be completed online at https://www.myscschools.com/apps/techsurvey. The survey form for the school year ending June 30, 2004, is currently active for your completion.

A revision will be made to the Funding Manual to provide guidance on the use of these funds and will be available online at the Department of Education's Web page at http://www.myscschools.com/offices/finance>. A printed copy of this letter is being sent only to district superintendents. Additional copies may be obtained electronically on the Department's Web page at http://www.myscschools.com/offices/tech>, under funding.

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These funds are provided for school technology or technology professional development. Allowable expenses include hardware, software, wiring and telecommunications equipment, and teacher e-mail. To support administrative hardware needs and to accommodate implementation of the Pearson software packages, up to 20 percent of your allocation may be used to purchase administrative hardware. In addition, you may use these funds for technology professional development or instructional materials to support technology professional development offered in districts.

For questions regarding this funding, please contact Barbara Teusink at 803-734-8395 or by e-mail at bteusink@sde.state.sc.us. Thank you for your dedication to ensuring that students are afforded full opportunity to develop essential technology skills and that technology tools are available in the classroom.

IMT/bjt Enclosures

Funding Manual / Guidelines

FY 04 School Technology Allocations